

consent to such transfer of control provided that the station has been in operation providing service with no substantial interruptions.

[59 FR 59507, Nov. 17, 1994, as amended at 59 FR 59954, Nov. 21, 1994]

Subpart E—Paging and Radiotelephone Service

§ 22.501 Scope.

The rules in this subpart govern the licensing and operation of public mobile paging and radiotelephone stations. The licensing and operation of these stations are also subject to rules elsewhere in this part that apply generally to the Public Mobile Services. However, in case of conflict, the rules in this subpart govern.

§ 22.503 Paging geographic area authorizations.

The FCC considers applications for and issues paging geographic area authorizations in the Paging and Radiotelephone Service in accordance with the rules in this section. Each paging geographic area authorization contains conditions requiring compliance with paragraphs (h) and (i) of this section.

(a) *Channels*. The FCC may issue a paging geographic area authorization for any channel listed in § 22.531 of this part or for any channel pair listed in § 22.561 of this part.

(b) *Paging geographic areas*. The paging geographic areas are as follows:

(1) The Nationwide paging geographic area comprises the District of Columbia and all States, Territories and possessions of the United States of America.

(2) The Major Trading Areas (MTAs) as defined in the Rand McNally *1992 Commercial Atlas & Marketing Guide*, 123rd Edition, at pages 38–39, with the following changes and additions:

(i) The Seattle paging geographic area does not include Alaska.

(ii) Alaska is a paging geographic area.

(iii) Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands (combined) are a paging geographic area.

(iv) Puerto Rico and the United States Virgin Islands (combined) are a paging geographic area.

(v) American Samoa is a paging geographic area.

(3) The Economic Areas (EAs), as defined by the Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis.

(c) *Availability*. The FCC may determine whether to issue a paging geographic area authorization for any specific channel or channel pair in any specific paging geographic area. The FCC may replace existing site specific authorizations for facilities on a channel or channel pair located in a paging geographic area with a paging geographic area authorization for that channel or channel pair, if in its sole discretion, the FCC determines that the public interest would be served by such replacement.

(d) *Filing windows*. The FCC accepts applications for paging geographic area authorizations only during filing windows. The FCC issues Public Notices announcing in advance the dates of the filing windows, and the specific paging geographic areas and channels for which applications may be accepted.

(e) *One grant per geographic area*. The FCC may grant one and only one application for a paging geographic area authorization for any specific channel or channel pair in any specific paging geographic area defined in paragraph (b) of this section. Selection from among mutually exclusive applications for a paging geographic area authorization will be made in accordance with the procedures in §§ 22.131 and 22.200 through 22.299. If after the selection process but prior to filing a “long form” application, a successful bidder decides to partition the paging geographic area, the FCC may require and accept multiple “long form” applications from the consortium members.

(f) *Exclusive right to expand*. During the term of a paging geographic area authorization, the FCC does not accept, from anyone other than the paging geographic area licensee, any major application for authorization to operate a facility that would serve unserved area within the paging geographic area specified in that paging geographic area authorization, on the channel specified in that paging geographic area authorization, unless any extension of the interfering contour of the proposed facility falls: